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Pamphlets on free Trade

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# THE AMERICAN PROTECTIVE TARIFF LEAGUE,

NO. 23 WEST TWENTY-THIRD STREET, NEW YORK.

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# THE AMERICAN PROTECTIVE TARIFF LEAGUE.

## PRINCIPLES.

The object of The American Protective Tariff League, as expressed in Article II of its Constitution, is, by adequate duties upon imported products, to protect American labor, whether Agricultural, Manufacturing, Mining, or Commercial, against the competition of low-priced labor in foreign countries.

The League recognizes that the American people should not, and will not, submit to the low standard of wages prevailing in other countries; that this is a government by the people and not one in which the people are subordinate to the governing powers; that the existence of the Republic depends upon the maintenance of a high standard of American citizenship; and that in all questions of public policy the advancement of the citizen takes precedence of every other consideration.

It claims that not only the industrial growth of the Republic, but the prosperity and social well-being of its citizens, are promoted by a JUDICIOUS PROTECTIVE TARIFF. The recent report of the United States Labor Commission shows that, during the past quarter of a century, under a Protective Tariff, cost of production and expenses of living have steadily diminished, rates of wages have increased, and wage-earners, in common with all other citizens, have reaped incalculable benefits from the general cheapening of commodities that has followed home production and healthful home competition.

It maintains that cost of production and expenses of living are diminished, and rates of wages increased, with the advance in the productive power of labor; and that the growth of this productive power depends upon the opportunities and rewards for intelligent effort afforded by a high standard of wages.

It affirms that the intelligence, skill, and ambition of our workmen, encouraged by liberal wages, will enable them to compete advantageously with cheap and unintelligent labor everywhere; that the same methods by which many of the advanced products of American labor are now successfully competing abroad with similar products of foreign labor, may be applied to other industries; and that cheap production, through high wages and intelligence, will enable us not only to hold our own market, but ultimately to command the markets of the world.

While opposing monopolies and exclusive privileges, The League advocates and upholds that policy which protects the right of every American citizen to his share in the fruits of American labor employed under free government, in the development of our unequaled material resources.

FINALLY, THE AMERICAN PROTECTIVE TARIFF LEAGUE PROPOSES A UNION AND ORGANIZATION OF ALL INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF AMERICA IN DEFENSE AND FOR THE ELEVATION OF THE AMERICAN STANDARD OF WAGES, LIVING, AND SELF-GOVERNMENT.

In furtherance of this purpose, it appeals to all who share in the trials and achievements of American industry, whether wage-earners or wage-payers, to combine in support of a movement which, with their aid, will not only insure the triumph of the American system in America, and improve the condition of all our people, but, by its influence and example, advance the condition of industrial life throughout the world.

## METHODS.

Addressing, therefore, all workers, whether employers or employed, The American Protective Tariff League proposes to make known in every practicable way the principles and advantages of the American Protective System, with the intent thereby to limit the importation of the products of Foreign Labor, and thus maintain and broaden the fields in which American labor may by profitably engaged.

Under no circumstances will The League indentify itself with any political party—its aim being to unite all parties in support of the policy which it advocates.

## ORGANIZATION.

The plan of The League includes a Central Organization in each State and Territory of the Union, with a Vice-President and State Secretary at its head. Subordinate to these a local organization will be formed in each County, with a Chairman and Corresponding Secretary. In populous districts, town and ward associations or Tariff Clubs will be formed.

By means of such systematic organization, every part of the country will be reached, its condition ascertained, and its needs promptly supplied.

## MEMBERSHIP.

Any person may become a member of The League, or Auxiliary Associations may appoint delegate members to represent them in the management of The League. Provision is also made for life membership, with exemption from annual fees.

All members and Auxiliary Associations will receive the publications of The League, either gratuitously or at a nominal price to cover cost, and such other aid and facilities as The League may be able to supply.

All contributions should be made payable to Chester Griswold, Esq., treasurer, and addressed to him, or to the general secretary, at the office of The League.

Correspondence is cordially solicited with any person or association wishing to unite with The League, or to obtain information of its plans and purposes.

Adopted by the Executive Committee, July 1, 1886.

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ROBERT P. PORTER, *General Secretary,*
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**No. 23 West Twenty-third Street, New York.**

# THE AMERICAN

# Protective Tariff League,

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